

**State of California
Office of Emergency Services
Fire and Rescue Branch**

TRANSMITTAL

TO: REGIONAL FIRE AND RESCUE MUTUAL AID COORDINATORS

P. Michael Freeman	Region I Coordinator
Keith Richter	Region II Coordinator
Del Walters	Region III Coordinator
Mark D'Ambrogi	Region IV Coordinator
Candace Gregory	Region V Coordinator
Bob Green	Region VI Coordinator
Ken McLean	CDF Fire Protection

**FROM: Kim Zagaris
Chief**

DATE: August 13, 2007

SUBJECT: California Hazardous Materials Response Capabilities Typing Project

NOTE: ***THIS IS A INFORMATION BULLETIN*****
PLEASE DELIVER TO REGIONAL FIRE AND RESCUE COORDINATOR**

Please forward and distribute to the OES Fire and Rescue Regional Coordinator and OES Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinators within your Region.

Please ensure that the OES Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinators forward and distribute to Local Fire Agencies within their Operational Areas.

Dear Fire Chiefs:

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services Fire and Rescue Branch (OES) on behalf of the California Fire and Rescue Mutual System and in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security (OHS) are working to update the California Fire Resource Inventory System ("CFRIS") and California Disaster Resource and Capability Preparedness Assessment Metrics Project. The main purpose of this project is to develop and implement an ongoing system to determine status of prevention and preparedness plans and assess the sufficiency of key emergency response and recovery assets. This will assist OES in enhancing the ability to manage mutual aid resources during emergency operations by having a better understanding of the quantity, quality, and location of key response resources and also assist OHS in the development of a systematic method for identifying gaps in prevention, planning and emergency response resource capabilities in order to effectively target homeland security grant funds.

The California Hazardous Materials Response Program encompasses many different components that make California's system one of the elite in the Nation. As you are well aware, the system foundation is based on the local agency's capability. The California Fire

Service has multiple levels of hazardous materials response capabilities from the single resource Company up to a FIREScope ICS-HM-120-1 Type-1 team.

Local government fire agencies currently support various levels of Hazardous Materials response teams. The members of these Response teams devote many hours of training and personnel commitment to making California the most professional and proficient in the nation.

I would ask you to take a moment to consider viewing the following documents that describe the ICS-HM-120-1 Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Program and the various levels of capability identified by FIREScope. <http://www.firescope.org/ics-hazmat/pos-manuals/ICS-HM-120-1.pdf>, <http://www.firescope.org/ics-hazmat/pos-manuals/haz-equiplist.pdf>

In the typing of Type-3, 2, and Type-1 units as an example, the equipment and training requirements are very specific. Due to the complexity of these types of resources, this office is prepared to continue the task of typing resources for local government who feel they have met or exceed the classifications identified in the Program.

The inspection and typing of resources for Haz-Mat will be conducted by OES Fire and Rescue/Haz-Mat staff members. Agencies that wish to be included in this process and plan on providing Mutual Aid Haz-Mat resources should submit a letter on agency letterhead to the Kim Zagaris, State Fire and Rescue Chief, OES Fire & Rescue requesting to schedule a typing assessment. If you need further information about the Haz-Mat typing program, contact the Assistant Chief Jan Dunbar at 916/845-8483 or 916/845-8711 for assistance.

Remember by typing the Haz-Mat resources, it will give the system a more accurate picture of what resources are available in the State for Mutual Aid. It will also provide the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System with the location of known resources that could be used in a Haz-Mat incident as single resources or to support a Hazardous Materials Incident. I encourage you to consider this process and ask for any assistance you may need in achieving the level of certification you may wish to maintain. Thank you for continuing to make the California Fire & Rescue Mutual Aid System an elite model for others to follow.

Sincerely,

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KIM ZAGARIS,
State Fire and Rescue Chief